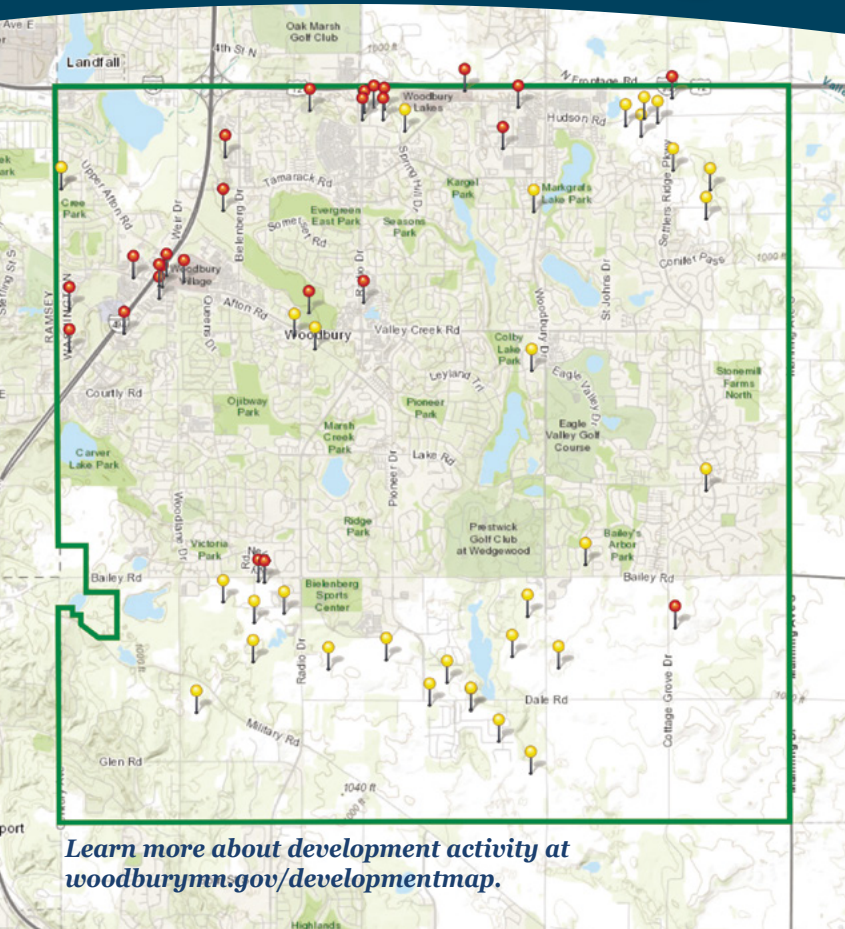


Woodbury City Update

January 2021 • Volume 22, No. 1



Learn more about development activity at
woodburymn.gov/developmentmap.

Website showcases development activity

Have you driven past a construction site in Woodbury recently and found yourself wondering, “What are they building over there?”

Do you know....:

- What is under construction in the CityPlace development near the intersection of Hudson Road and Spring Hill Drive?
- What projects are under construction at the intersection of Hudson Road and Settler's Ridge Parkway?
- Where is the Chick-fil-A restaurant going to be built?
- Where are the new residential subdivisions in Woodbury?

The answers to these questions - and more development related information - can be found on the city's online

development map at woodburymn.gov/developmentmap.

Additionally, you may opt to receive an InTouch email notification when new projects are added to the development map. To sign up, visit woodburymn.gov/InTouch and select the “New residential and commercial developments” list.

Items are placed on the development map once a development application is made to the city. Later, more specific information about a project is added following the City Council approval process.

For more information about development in the city, view the online development map or contact the Planning Division at 651-714-3533 or planning@woodburymn.gov.

Stay connected with the City of Woodbury

The City of Woodbury maintains an ongoing, multi-faceted communications program using a variety of print and electronic tools. Residents and businesses can stay up-to-date with the latest happenings around Woodbury by connecting with the city in ways that best fit their lifestyle.

Current city communications vehicles include:

Woodbury website

(woodburymn.gov): Access meeting agendas and learn about upcoming projects and initiatives. Plus, access online tools such as recreation registration, utility bill pay, job applications and more.

Woodbury City Update: a printed newsletter mailed to all residents and businesses 10 times a year, with a GreenTimes environmental insert three times a year.

InTouch email notification: an email subscription service providing news and information about a variety of topics. Sign up to receive InTouch messages on the city's website at woodburymn.gov/InTouch.

Video/TV/Livestream: The South Washington County Telecommunications Commission (SWCTC) broadcasts City Council meetings and some advisory commission meetings on Channel 16 (Comcast only). It also produces other fun and interesting videos about city services and events. All programming also is available on demand at swctc.org and on the city's YouTube channel at youtube.com/CityofWoodburyMN.

Parks and Recreation brochure: a detailed collection of recreation

program offerings typically mailed to all residents and businesses three times a year in March, August and November.

CodeRED: The CodeRED emergency telephone calling system uses the 911 database and published White Pages information for its notification lists. To add or change a number, including adding a mobile phone number, or to opt for a text message and/or email alert, self-register at woodburymn.gov/codered.

Facebook: six Facebook pages are operated by the city, including general city news; HealthEast Sports Center; Eagle Valley Golf Course; Parks and Recreation; Adult Athletics; and Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Twitter: four Twitter accounts are operated by the city, including general city news (@CityofWoodbury), Woodbury Public Safety (@WoodburyMNPS), HealthEast Sports Center (@healtheastsport) and Eagle Valley Golf Course (@EagleValleyGC).

YouTube: an assortment of short, engaging videos are available on the city's YouTube channel with the help of the South Washington County Telecommunications Commission. Visit youtube.com/CityofWoodburyMN.

Instagram: The city also is on Instagram providing behind-the-scenes images of activities and events from around the community. Follow us at instagram.com/WoodburyMinnesota.



Council Perspective

By Mayor Anne Burt

Helping Woodbury businesses navigate the pandemic

Happy New Year! I'm so excited for life to return to some type of normalcy this year. When that time comes, it will be important that our businesses are still able to provide the goods and services we've come to enjoy and expect from them. I want to share more about how our businesses are being supported during the pandemic and explain how the city is helping businesses adapt to the challenges they are facing.

Access to financial support

Woodbury businesses had access to federal Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) through the Washington County Community Development Agency (CDA). These federal funds provided a needed source of emergency cash flow to local businesses during the pandemic. The city helped facilitate some transactions by ensuring qualifying businesses were aware of these and other relief programs. In some cases, staff was able to help businesses navigate the application process by connecting businesses to the programs that best fit their needs.

The CDA offered three separate application periods to provide grants to businesses impacted by the pandemic, which included both home-based businesses and those with employees. Businesses with up to \$5 million in annual revenue and fewer than 50 employees were eligible. To be eligible a business must have incurred increased costs because of the pandemic or a loss of revenue. In total, approximately \$6 million in CRF was distributed to small businesses across the county as of Dec. 1, 2020.

As of Dec. 1, 2020, 122 Woodbury businesses had received a total of \$1.53 million in CRF grants. Roughly one-quarter of the CRF emergency grants awarded by the CDA were

issued to Woodbury businesses. The average grant amount in Woodbury was approximately \$12,500 and spanned several industries:

- Restaurant/food industry/hospitality (23 grants)
- Health care/medical/dental (18)
- Fitness/dance/gym (13)
- Hair salon/beauty/spa (15)
- Retail (11)
- Daycare (child, adult)/learning/music lessons/tutoring (15)
- Miscellaneous/services (27)

In addition to helping connect businesses to financial support, the city has modified its regulations to address the challenges our businesses are facing during the pandemic. Here's how:

1. Changes to regulations to allow for greater outdoor dining opportunities

On May 20, 2020, Gov. Tim Walz issued an executive order outlining the safety requirements for the opening of restaurants at that time. Businesses were required to have a plan in place to safely reopen to the public that reflected social distancing requirements and complied with limits imposed on the number of customers that may be served at one time in outdoor settings only.

The city anticipated businesses would need to add more outdoor dining spaces to accommodate customers while complying with the executive order. The ordinance language was updated to allow city staff the ability to extend interim permits for temporary outdoor events beyond 10 business days during declared state, national or local emergencies. Businesses were not charged for the permits.

2. Liquor license fee refunds

The city also refunded liquor license fees to the entities mostly impacted by the governor's order in May 2020. Three rounds of refunds were issued covering seven months of liquor license fees. When the annual liquor license renewal process begins this month, establishments will not be required to pay the annual license fee until June 2021.

3. Signage

The city implemented procedural modifications related to commercial code enforcement to help navigate impacts from the issued executive orders.

While it was done for other purposes and not in response to the pandemic, the city also made changes to its charitable gambling ordinance to make it easier for small businesses and local nonprofit organizations to participate, which benefits our businesses and nonprofit groups.

More support on the way?

Despite initial concerns about a potential slowdown due to the pandemic, Woodbury's residential growth has continued at a healthy pace. This activity spurs economic development growth and helps all of our existing businesses.

In addition, as this edition of City Update went to press, the state legislature was discussing a \$216.5 million additional aid package to Minnesota businesses suffering during the pandemic. We'll continue to monitor the progress of the legislation and help connect our businesses with any new relief funds that may be coming. We don't fully understand yet how much of these dollars will be allocated to Woodbury businesses, so please continue supporting our amazing business community!

Duck Donuts receives Comcast RISE grant

Comcast recently announced a multi-year commitment to its Representation, Investment, Strength and Empowerment (RISE) program, an initiative that provides free marketing, creative, media and technology services to Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC)-owned small businesses.

Duck Donuts, located in Woodbury Village, was one of the first businesses in the country to receive the award.

"I was excited to see a Woodbury business selected for the Comcast Twin Cities RISE grant," said Mayor Anne Burt. "Our businesses are facing unique challenges and I am pleased to see Comcast providing resources to help our businesses."

Another round of Comcast RISE grants are expected to be awarded in the near future. Interested businesses should apply at comcastrise.com/apply by Feb. 7. Eligible businesses must be:

- At least 51 percent Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)-owned and operated;
- Independently owned and operated;
- Registered to conduct business in the U.S.;
- Operating for one or more years; and
- Located within the Comcast Business or Effectv service area footprint.

The Woodbury newsletter is published 10 times per year by the City of Woodbury and mailed to all residents and businesses. Send comments to: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125-3330. Phone: 651-714-3500. Email: jason.egerstrom@woodburymn.gov.

Mayor: Anne Burt. Council Members: Andrea Date, Steve Morris, Jennifer Santini and Kim Wilson. City Administrator: Clint Gridley. Communications Manager: Jason Egerstrom.

The City of Woodbury is subject to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In accordance with the act, the Woodbury newsletter is available in other formats. Call Jason Egerstrom, 651-714-3500; TDD: 651-714-3568.

Plowing crew's goal is to clear city streets in eight hours

In an average winter, Public Works crews plow city streets about 25 times. Each time they are called out, plow operators clear the equivalent of 828 miles of one-lane roadway, including cul-de-sacs. That's about the same as driving from Woodbury to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!

When they hit the streets during winter storms, Woodbury's Public Works crews have a mission: To complete plowing and sanding of all city roads and cul-de-sacs at least once within eight hours.

Plowing activities begin in Woodbury whenever icy or slippery conditions make driving difficult. Roads adjacent to schools and primary streets, such as Tamarack Road, Woodlane Drive, Lake Road, Bielenberg Drive and Hudson Road, are given first priority for plowing. Residential streets and cul-de-sacs are cleared next.

"Our goal is to have the primary roads cleared before the morning and evening rush hour," Streets Supervisor Tim Thurmes said. "Heavy accumulations or high winds sometimes make that impossible, though."

How you can help

- Observe Woodbury's winter parking regulations. Don't park your car on the street between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m., or after a 2-inch snowfall. This not only ensures more effective plowing but also helps you avoid a citation.
- Don't allow children to build snow forts and tunnels adjacent to the curb, or play in the snow banks adjacent to the curb or snow piles in cul-de-sacs. It can be difficult for the plow operators to see children.
- If trash/recycling pickup day coincides with plowing activities, make sure your trash can and recycling bin are well behind the curb or in the driveway so the plow will not hit them. Plows are required to push snow back to the mailboxes, curbs and road edges to keep the road wide and passable.
- Keep sleds and toys away from the street.
- Shovel snow from the bottom of the driveway to the right as you're facing the street (see image below). This will reduce the amount of snow being placed back into the

driveway during the next plowing. In addition, shovel the snow pushed into your driveway before it has a chance to freeze and become a hardened mass of snow.

- Clear snow from the mailbox area after each plowing. Snow that remains in front of mailboxes will get compacted by post office vehicles and make subsequent plowing less effective. In addition, mail carriers may stop delivering your mail if access to your mailbox is restricted.
- "Adopt" a fire hydrant near your home and keep snow cleared away from it. This will ensure that hydrants are accessible in case of an emergency.
- Motorists should allow at least five car lengths between their vehicle and a plow. Remember, if you can see the face of a truck driver in their mirror, they can see you. Most accidents occur when the plow truck turns from an intersection, suddenly stops, and backs up to return to complete plowing the other side of the street. Please give plow trucks room to work.

For more information about plowing procedures, visit woodburymn.gov. Questions should be directed to the Public Works Department at 651-714-3720 or email publicworks@woodburymn.gov.



Keep sidewalks clear of snow this winter

With winter now upon us, it is important to know that city ordinance requires property owners with property adjacent to a public sidewalk to maintain the sidewalk by clearing snow and ice within 12 hours after it stops falling.

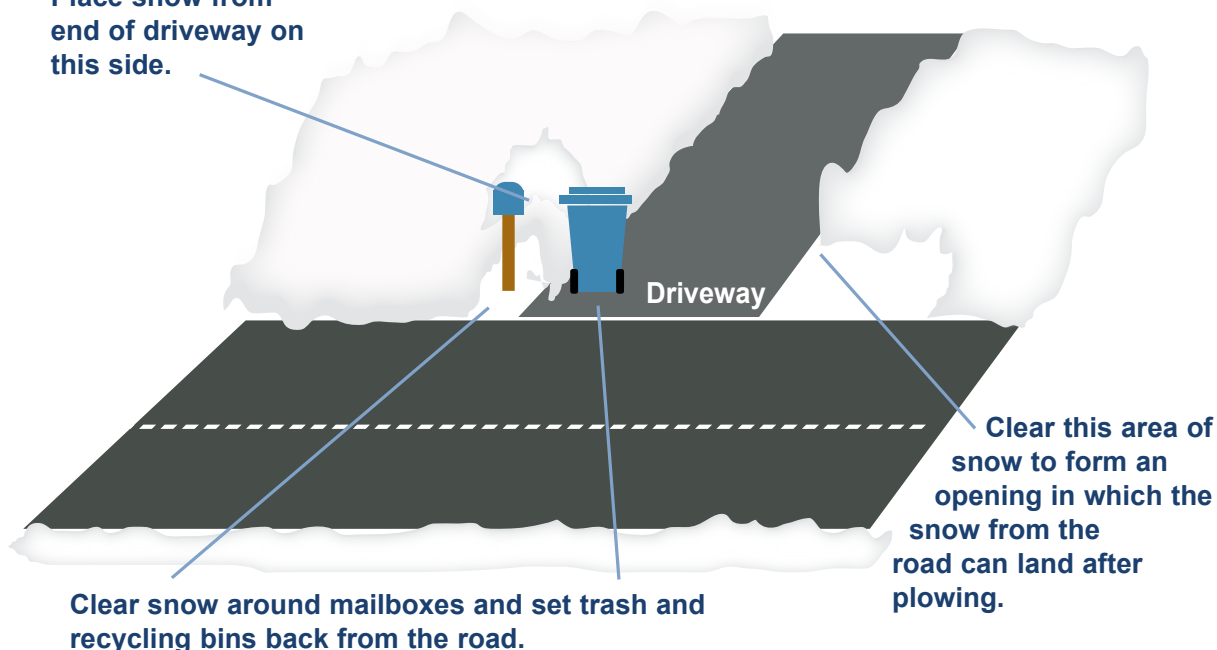
If you own property adjacent to a public sidewalk, be sure to keep it clear. If you have a contractor clearing the snow and ice from your sidewalks and driveway, remind them to also include the clearing of the public sidewalk(s) adjacent to your property.

Be aware that sidewalks not cleared within 12 hours may be abated, meaning the city may hire a private contractor to clear the sidewalk at the cost of the adjacent property owner. The cost of removal varies depending on the sidewalk as well as the amount and nature of the material to be cleared. Typically, the cost for abatement exceeds \$200 and may include administrative costs as well.

If you have questions, contact Matt Novak, senior code enforcement officer, at 651-714-3553 or matt.novak@woodburymn.gov.

Avoid the "second shovel"

Place snow from end of driveway on this side.





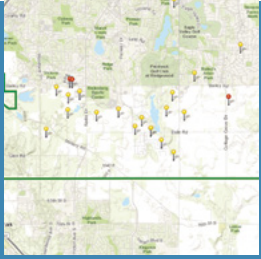
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**Development map
available online**

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businesses**

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**Clearing snow in
Woodbury**

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Postal Patron
Woodbury, MN

INSIDE

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Reserve a park shelter or building beginning Jan. 13

Looking for a place to hold a graduation party, family reunion, business meeting or celebration in 2021? Woodbury's outdoor park shelters are available for rent beginning Jan. 13. Building spaces are available to rent year-round.

The City of Woodbury also offers many different locations and spaces suitable for groups of all sizes at Central Park, Eagle Valley Golf Course, Ojibway Park and HealthEast Sports Center.

All facility reservations will be required to follow the Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 guidelines that apply on the date of the reservation.



To reserve a park shelter or building, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 651-714-3583 or reserve online at woodburymn.gov/parkrentals.

Break through language barriers with LanguageLine

Did you know community members who prefer to communicate in a language other than English can request city services or ask questions in their native tongue?

When someone calls a city building, staff has the option of locating an interpreter through the LanguageLine and connecting him/her to the phone call. This program allows staff to speak with the caller through an interpreter. The Public Safety Department also has access to this service, if needed, during police, fire or emergency medical services interactions.

The LanguageLine is available in many different languages and is provided through the State of Minnesota.